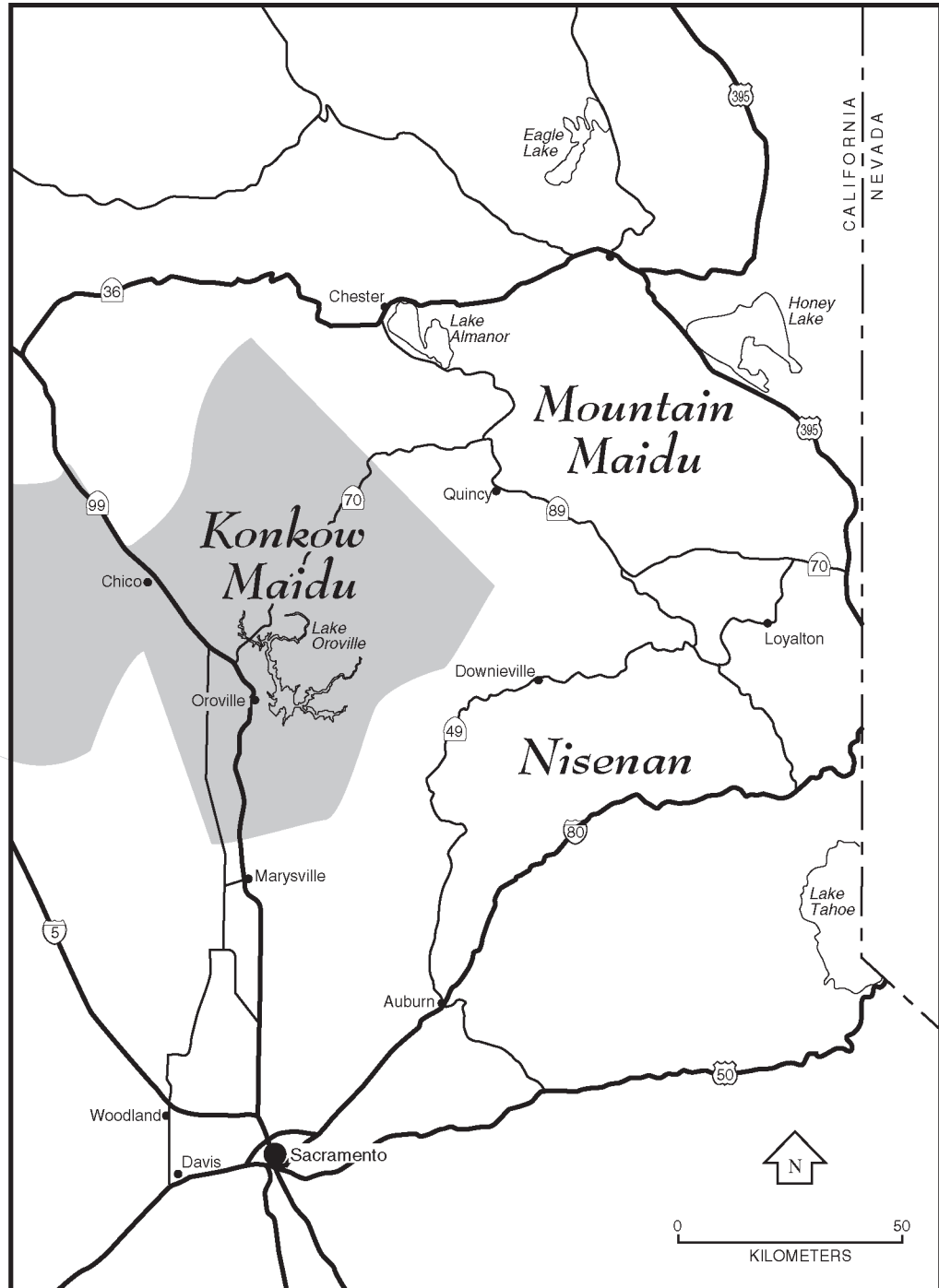


tant communications between people and groups occur—they manifest the integral ways in which the people are connected with each other, with their important activities, and with the landscape. The Ethnographic and Ethnohistoric context, which accompanies the Inventory, provides essential information for understanding and interpreting the cultural locations.



*Maidu Tribal Territory.*

## *How was the Inventory Conducted?*

The inventory for the Oroville Facilities Relicensing Project has been conducted using two main research strategies. The first involved interviewing knowledgeable, local, Konkow Maidu Elders, since information about culturally important or sensitive locations can only come from within the community. Historical information from these Elders is critical for developing a representative ethnohistoric perspective, since many published sources do not take Maidu views into account. The second strategy has consisted of the examination and review of published materials and unpublished archival resources. Some of these materials contain information gathered previously from members of the Maidu community, some present first hand observations of historic events, and some provide interpretation and analysis of events and circumstances.

### **Interviews**

The Ethnographic Team, which consists of anthropologists accompanied by Maidu assistants, consulted with knowledgeable members of the local Konkow Maidu Tribes regarding information about culturally important and/or sensitive locations in the Oroville Facilities project area. The interviews were designed to directly address locations which contemporary Maidu have concerns about. Interviews began in September 2002 with the Elders, all of whom were born and raised in the local area, and most of whom have spent the majority of their lives in their Tribal home territory; thus, they have been intimately acquainted with the project area previous to the inundation of the reservoir. Consultants include members from Berry Creek, Enterprise, and Mooretown Rancherias, and the Konkow Valley Band of Maidu.



*Ethnographic Team on Field Trip with Patsy Seek, Konkow Elder.*

Many consultants participated in multiple interviews, with some participating in six or more sessions. These interviews were held in a variety of locations, depending on where the Elders would feel most comfortable. The sessions were open-ended, with the goal of encouraging the consultant to have a free flow of memory. Additionally, the ethnographers and

Elders made a number of field trips, many of them day-long, into the project area and its adjacent surroundings to identify important places and discuss cultural values and historic concerns. These interviews also included discussions of Maidu life and history as seen from the Elders' perspectives, thus providing a context for appreciating and understanding particular locations.

### Library and Archival Research

Published and unpublished documents were also examined and reviewed for relevant data gathered by previous researchers. Importantly, the Butte County Public Library in Oroville maintains a significant collection of both published works and unpublished documents with information pertaining to the history of Butte County and Oroville. Among the holdings is the California Indian Library Project, which is a collection of most of the published anthropological studies carried out in the 20th Century that pertain to the Konkow Maidu Peoples in the area. A number of other libraries also have important collections of both published and archival materials. Unpublished, ethnographic documents have proven to be especially rich for the Oroville Reservoir Area. Maps in these collections reflect the remarkable density of Maidu villages and use of the Oroville Facilities project area and surroundings, indicating that this was, and continues to be, a critically important area for the Konkow Peoples. In addition to the unpublished ethnographic documents, primary data such as U.S. Census and land status records have been invaluable in associating individuals and families with particular locations. Historic photos also add important information to the study.



*Maidu Women at Bald Rock.*